



On Sunday, I made the statement: Every faith decision carries doubt with it. What do you think of that?

Read Daniel 3

After the dream and interpretation in chapter 2, what would prompt Nebuchadnezzar to build the statue in chapter 3?

For two chapters now, we have seen Daniel take the lead in standing up to the king. What do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were feeling now that Daniel was absent?

In the statement these men make to the king, they say four things:

- ▶ We don't need to defend ourselves to you.
- ▶ Our God is **able** to save us from the furnace.
- ▶ Our God **will** save us from the hand of the king.
- ▶ Even if God doesn't save us, we will not serve or worship other gods.

What do you think the men meant by the first statement?

In the second statement, "God is able" but in the third statement, "God will." Why does the verb change?

What do you think of the final statement?

On Sunday, I encouraged people to fill in these blanks: God is able to _____ but even if he does not, I will _____. How would you fill in those blanks?

Whether it was an angel or Jesus himself, the fourth person in the furnace is a vivid expression of God's presence. What does it mean to you to know that **God is present with the faithful in the fire**?

Take it home

In light of all this, read James 4:7-10. What promises would God have you hold onto this week?



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